
DURHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Effective July 1, 1992, Durham County's two public school systems merged forming the Durham Public Schools. All Durham County funding is from general funds; the supplemental taxing districts were discontinued with the merger.

Durham Public Schools were merged under legislation establishing minimum requirements for local funding based on the highest per pupil expenditure in the last five years of either school system prior to merger. Per pupil allocation used in the school funding formula is \$1,960. The amount of minimum funding is determined by multiplying the \$1,960 per pupil expense with the 20th day ADM (Average Daily Membership) enrollment figure for the year. County funding for the Durham Public Schools including current expense, capital outlay (excluding bond-funded projects) and debt service must be no less than the minimum funding required.

A comparison of the minimum funding required and the approved funding level is shown below.

Per pupil funding	\$1,960
Multiply by total FY 2002-2003 ADM	30,644
Minimum funding, FY 2003-04	\$60,062,240

	FY 2002-2003	FY 2003-2004	FY 2003-2004
FUNDING	Adopted	Requested	Approved
General fund current expense	\$71,105,456	\$72,205,456	\$73,649,932
General fund capital outlay	<u>\$1,500,000</u>	<u>\$1,500,000</u>	<u>\$1,500,000</u>
Total general fund	\$72,605,456	\$73,705,456	\$75,149,932
School debt service	\$17,900,375	\$17,460,818	\$17,460,818
TOTAL FUNDING	\$90,505,831	\$91,166,274	\$92,610,750

The fiscal year 2003-2004 Durham Public Schools Board of Education's requested budget will provide funding for the second and final year of the Hillside High School Plan in the amount of \$334,500. The total estimated cost of the two-year plan is \$659,000. A committee of educators and community supporters designed an augmentation plan for the school. The plan will boost Hillside's instructional programs and offerings and addresses the following areas: school organization and management; academics/curriculum and instruction; student support; and parent and community involvement/support. The additional funding requested would partially fund services to a growing student population and meet salary and benefit needs.

As part of the approved budget, the Board of County Commissioners voted to increase current expense funding by an \$1,444,476 for Durham Public Schools. This funding will support locally funded teaching positions and teaching assistant positions, with \$100,000 of that increase being targeted to the four lowest performing elementary schools in the school system. Therefore, the total increase in current expense funding from fiscal year 2002-2003 to fiscal year 2003-2004 is \$2,544,476.